

LPG Agencies In Bihar

† 652. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- the total number of LPG agencies is various districts of Bihar as on 31st January, 2001;
- Whether the above number *is* less in comparison to the increasing population;
- if so, whether any proposal of Government of Bihar is under Central Government's consideration for establishing more agencies; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE XN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANG WAR): (a) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies are operating 154 LPG distributorships in the State of Bihar as on 31st January, 2001.

(b) to (d) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies have planned to set up 199 LPG distributorships under various Marketing Plans in the State of Bihar to increase the infrastructure for distribution of LPG.

Oil Exploration in Mahanadi Deep Water Basin

653. SHRI B.J. PANDA:

SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- whether ONGC and Gas Authority of India have been entrusted the task for oil exploration in Mahanadi deep water basin in 2000-2001;
- if so, the details of the survey/exploration undertaken by ONGC and Gas Authority of India during that financial year in that river basin;
- the results thereof; and

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.